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(54) LIPID METABOLISM IMPROVING AGENT FOR POULTRY AND POULTRY FEED CONTAINING THE AGENT

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain the subject improving agent composed of a tea component and effective for controlling the fat content in the abdominal cavity, liver and blood of poultry to prevent fatty liver, decrease the mortality of poultry, prevent the egg laying performance and contribute to the improvement of meat quality.

SOLUTION: This improving agent is composed of a tea component. The tea component is preferably (-)-epigallocatechin gallate which is a polyphenol compound. Tea leaf can be used as it is or in a pulverized state as the tea component. As an alternative, tea leaf extract or its purified product may be used as the tea component. (-)-Epigallocatechin gallate can be produced e.g. by extracting tea leaf with hot water, passing the extracted liquid through a column packed with a hydroxypropylated dextran gel, eluting with 20-30% methanol to remove a fraction containing (-)-epicatechin and (-)-epigallocatechin and eluting the remaining component with 40-85% methanol. The agent is preferably added to a poultry feed in an amount to get a feed containing 0.1-0.6wt.% of tea polyphenols.

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